

A nice tutorial on the application of Muirhead's inequality can be found at:  
<https://kheavan.files.wordpress.com/2010/06/muirhead-69859.pdf>

Also solved by Arkady Alt, San Jose, CA; Michael Brozinsky, Central Islip, NY; Ed Gray, Highland Beach, FL; Toshihiro Shimizu, Kawasaki Japan; Albert Stadler, Herrliberg, Switzerland, and the proposer.

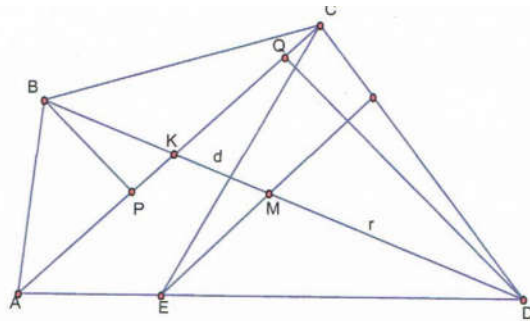
- **5393:** Proposed by José Luis Díaz-Barrero, Barcelona, Tech, Barcelona, Spain

Through the midpoint of the diagonal  $BD$  in the convex quadrilateral  $ABCD$  we draw a straight line parallel to the diagonal  $AC$ . This line intersects the side  $AD$  at the point  $E$ . Show that

$$\frac{1}{[ABC]} + \frac{1}{[AEC]} \geq \frac{4}{[CED]}.$$

Here  $[XYZ]$  represents the area of  $\triangle XYZ$ .

**Solution 1** by Arkady Alt, San Jose, CA



We assume that midpoint  $M$  of diagonal  $BD$  does not coincide with  $K$  ( the point of intersection of  $AC$  and  $BD$ ) because otherwise  $[AEC] = 0$ .

Also, w.l.o.g. assume that  $KD > BK$ .

Let  $r = BM = MD$  and  $d := KM$ . Since  $ME \parallel AC$  then  $\frac{AE}{ED} = \frac{KM}{MD} = \frac{d}{r}$  and, therefore,

$$[AEC] = [ACD] \cdot \frac{AE}{AD} = [ACD] \cdot \frac{d}{r+d} \text{ and } [CED] = [ACD] \cdot \frac{ED}{AD} = [ACD] \cdot \frac{r}{r+d}.$$

Let  $BP, DQ \perp AC$ . Then  $\triangle KPB \approx \triangle KQD \implies \frac{BP}{DQ} = \frac{BK}{DK}$  and since

$$BK = r - d, KD = r + d \text{ we have } \frac{[ABC]}{[ADC]} = \frac{AC \cdot BP}{AC \cdot DQ} = \frac{r - d}{r + d}.$$

$$\text{Thus, } \frac{1}{[ABC]} + \frac{1}{[AEC]} \geq \frac{4}{[CED]} \iff \frac{1}{[ABC]} + \frac{r+d}{d \cdot [ACD]} \geq \frac{4(r+d)}{r \cdot [ACD]} \iff$$

$$\frac{[ACD]}{[ABC]} + \frac{r+d}{d} \geq \frac{4(r+d)}{r} \iff \frac{r+d}{r-d} + \frac{r+d}{d} \geq \frac{4(r+d)}{r} \iff \frac{1}{r-d} + \frac{1}{d} \geq \frac{4}{r}$$

$$\text{and we have } \frac{1}{r-d} + \frac{1}{d} - \frac{4}{r} = \frac{(r-2d)^2}{dr(r-d)} \geq 0.$$

### Solution 2 by Toshihiro Shimizu, Kawasaki Japan

Let  $M$  be the midpoint of  $BD$ ,  $F$  be the intersection of  $AC$  and  $BD$  and  $S$  be the area of the quadrilateral  $ABCD$ . Let  $x = FB/DB$ . Then,  $[ABC] = xS$ ,  $[ADC] = (1-x)S$  and  $DM/DF = 1/(2(1-x))$ . Thus,  $[AEC] = [ADC] |AE/AD| = [ADC] |MF/DF| = (1-x)S ((1/2-x)/(1-x)) = (1/2-x)S$ . Similarly,  $[CED] = [ADC] |ED/AD| = [ADC] |MD/DF| = (1-x)S |(1/2)/(1-x)| = 1/2S$ . Therefore we need to show that

$$\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}-x} \geq \frac{4}{1/2} = 8.$$

From Cauchy-Schwarz's inequality,

$$\left( \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}-x} \right) \left( x + \frac{1}{2} - x \right) \geq 2^2$$

.It's equivalent to the desired inequality.

### Solution 3 by Kee-Wai Lau, Hong Kong, China

Without loss of generality, let  $\overline{BD} = 2$ . Let  $O = (0, 0)$ ,  $A = (x_A, y_A)$ ,  $B = (0, 1)$ ,  $C = (x_C, y_C)$ ,  $D(0, -1)$ , where  $x_A > 0$  and  $x_C < 0$ . Suppose that  $AC$  and  $BD$  intersect at  $F = (0, f)$ . Since  $OE \parallel AC$  and  $E$  lies on  $AD$ , so  $f > 0$ . Since quadrilateral  $ABCD$  is convex, so  $f < 1$ . Suppose that slope of  $AC =$

slope of  $OE = m$ . We readily obtain  $y_A = mx_A + f$ ,  $y_C = mx_C + f$  and

$$E = \left( \frac{x_A}{1+f}, \frac{mx_A}{1+f} \right). \text{ By the standard formula, we obtain } [ABC] = \frac{(1-f)(x_A - x_C)}{2}.$$

$$[AEC] = \frac{f(x_A - x_C)}{2} \text{ and } [CED] = \frac{x_A - x_C}{2}. \text{ Hence the inequality of the problem is}$$